

HOUSE RESOLUTION 261
By Ferguson

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Mr. Hurman Shelton for his distinguished military service.

WHEREAS, our nation was conceived by individuals who were willing to sacrifice their personal safety and concerns to ensure our individual and collective freedom, and the Volunteer State is especially proud to be the home of so many valiant men and women who have performed above and beyond the call of duty; and

WHEREAS, thousands of Tennesseans have continued this time-honored tradition of volunteerism through service in the United States Army, Air Force, and other branches of the military; and

WHEREAS, one such brave and dedicated Tennessean is Mr. Hurman Shelton, who was born on July 2, 1905, in Arkansas; he joined the United States Army in 1927, serving with great bravery and ability as a bugler and as 1st Sergeant for six years; and

WHEREAS, Hurman Shelton enlisted again in the United States Air Force when World War II erupted; he served with courage and gallantry during World War II and deserves proper recognition for his heroism in serving both branches of the United States military; and

WHEREAS, after leaving the military, Mr. Shelton took a job playing steel guitar with a band in Detroit, where he met and married his beloved wife, Margaret; and

WHEREAS, the Sheltons moved to East Tennessee in 1962, making Roane County their home; Mr. Shelton wasted no time in becoming a member of the First Baptist Church in Kingston, soon beginning his service as a deacon for a number of years and participating in numerous church programs; and

WHEREAS, a public-spirited citizen of the highest order, Hurman Shelton was devoted to the expansion of the church's Christian outreach program, utilizing a tape ministry to reach a wider audience, and personally transporting nursing home residents to and from the church

each Sunday; he also helped to organize the Roane County chapter of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, demonstrating his strong commitment to honoring our veterans; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to accolades, Mr. Shelton was recognized for his “Outstanding Christian Service to Baptist Men” and for his dedication to “Mission Services” by the First Baptist Church in Kingston; the members of the church also named him “Outstanding Baptist Man”; and

WHEREAS, his military and spiritual accomplishments notwithstanding, Mr. Shelton is a talented artist who took up painting at the age of 75; his artwork has been on display in various parts of the state, has been featured in the Roane County News, and was hung in the living room of the Rockwood Care and Rehabilitation Center for a number of years prior to his residency; and

WHEREAS, when the freedom of this State, our Nation, and the world was threatened by foreign aggression during World War II, Mr. Shelton joined the many men and women of the Greatest Generation who left their normal lives behind to oppose tyranny, defend liberty, and ensure equal opportunity for their children and grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hurman Shelton has served his country with courage and gallantry and deserves proper recognition for his heroism in the United States Air Force, the United States Army, and in society today; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby honor and commend Mr. Hurman Shelton of Roane County for his meritorious service in the United States Army and the United States Air Force, and for serving as an embodiment of the values that are held dear by all Tennesseans. We join with his family, friends, community, and church in offering our thanks for a difficult job well done.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we congratulate Mr. Shelton upon being recently honored by the Rockwood Care and Rehabilitation Center.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.